Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Emergency medical services are vital public services; and,

Whereas, Members of emergency medical service teams stand ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and,

Whereas, Access to quality emergency care provided by these teams dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and,

Whereas, Emergency medical services providers have traditionally served as the safety net of America's health care system; and,

Whereas, Emergency medical services teams include emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and,

Whereas, Approximately two-thirds of all emergency medical service providers are volunteers; and,

Whereas, Both career and volunteer emergency medical services providers devote thousands of hours to specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and,

Whereas, South Dakotans benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals; and,

Whereas, The appropriate use of the emergency medical services system can help reduce health care costs; and,

Whereas, It is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of emergency medical services providers:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2005, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all citizens to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities within their communities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State